

# Service-Learning E-News

Parkland College's Bimonthly E-Newsletter on All Things Service-Learning and Volunteerism

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## In This Issue:

- MLK Day of Service Report
- Spring Volunteer Fair, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> 11am-1:30pm
- Project READ looking for tutors
- Join the Garden Hills Homework Club!
- Wesley Food Pantry @ Parkland

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## Online Resources

[Parkland College Service Learning Website](#)

[CU Volunteer Database](#)

[Service Learning Clearinghouse](#)

## MLK Day of Service

Parkland College successfully hosted a Day of Service on Martin Luther King Jr. Day, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018. For the fourth year in a row, the Parkland Service-Learning Program partnered with the Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland to coordinate the repacking of rice and pinto beans, some of the most popular items at the Pantry. Over 30 Parkland students, faculty, staff, and administration (+ their families!) helped repack 2,000 pounds of food for the clients of the Pantry.

Thank you to everyone who donated their time to support this event!

## Spring Volunteer Fair

Mark your calendars for the spring semester Volunteer Fair, set for Wednesday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, from 11:30am to 1:30pm in the **Gallery Lounge**. The Volunteer Fair is a great way to network, meet local nonprofit organizations, and become involved in local volunteer opportunities. We had a great turnout last semester, so we're excited to invite you to stop by the Fair, tell your friends about it, or maybe bring your class by to visit with representatives from area community organizations. For more information, or for a list of participating organizations, please contact Gabi Fisher at [GFisher@parkland.edu](mailto:GFisher@parkland.edu) or (217) 353-3302.

## Project READ

Project READ, the Wesley Food Pantry, and the Center for Community Engagement--all at Parkland College--have teamed up to provide free tutoring for adults in reading, basic math, or ESL services on Wednesdays from 12:00pm-2:00pm, beginning February 7<sup>th</sup>, in the new Parkland College Center for Community Engagement (C-134).

Project READ provides training for all tutors with a combination of in-person and online training to prepare for their service. The Parkland College Center for Community Engagement will offer this training on Wednesday, January 24, from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. Additional training dates and times, plus registration forms may be found at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0C49A5A728A6FF2-tutor>.

Please contact the Project READ office at [ProjectREAD@parkland.edu](mailto:ProjectREAD@parkland.edu) or 217-353-2662 for more information. Project READ is funded by the Illinois State Library.

Please also "Like" the Project READ Facebook page! They post updates on training and tutor support here: <https://www.facebook.com/Project-READ-at-Parkland-College-Adult-Ed-512305432220950/>

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## Join the Garden Hills Homework Club!

For the past ten years, students and faculty of Parkland College have been working with 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders at an afterschool program called the Homework Club at Garden Hills Elementary. The Club, a partnership between Parkland College and Champaign Unit 4 Schools, meets two days a week (Mondays and Wednesdays), from 3:00-4:00pm. We are currently recruiting members of the Parkland community to volunteer one or two days a week throughout the spring semester. Volunteers provide not only academic support to the Garden Hills kids, but also serve as important role models to at-risk youth. As a result of the success of previous semesters, our primary goal this term is to increase the number of Parkland College students working with Garden Hills students.

For more information about potentially connecting your class, program, or club with the Garden Hills Homework Club this semester, please contact Brian Nudelman at [bnudelman@parkland.edu](mailto:bnudelman@parkland.edu) or Gabi Fisher at [gfisher@parkland.edu](mailto:gfisher@parkland.edu).

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## Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland College

The Wesley Food Pantry at Parkland is located in M-138, near the Staerkel Planetarium, and is open on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of each month from 11am-1pm and 4-6pm and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays of each month from 10:00-noon. Besides offering an incredible service for our students, the pantry provides an excellent opportunity for service-learning on the Parkland campus. Check out [their website](#) for more information about Wesley Food Pantry and volunteer opportunities with them.

Please contact [Brian Nudelman](#) or [Gabi Fisher](#) for information on starting a service-learning component with the pantry.

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